

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 VIENNA 06307 130300Z

ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 IO-14 ICA-20

COME-00 TRSE-00 /060 W

-----117331 140314Z /75

R 121625Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO USDA/FAS WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7146

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

UNCLAS VIENNA 06307

FAS FOR GRAIN & FEED/NOVOTNY FROM AGATTACHE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, HU

SUBJ: HUNGARIAN HARVEST PROSPECTS 1978

1. ON JULY 11, ISTVAN MESZAROS, DIR. GEN., MIN.AG., RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING CROP PRODUCTION, BRIEFED AGATTACHE ON PROSPECTS FOR GRAIN HARVEST IN HUNGARY. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR POINTS MADE BY MESZAROS.

2. GRAIN HARVEST HAS JUST STARTED AND PROSPECTS LOOK GOOD FOR 1978. SMALL GRAINS HARVEST (WHEAT, RYE, BARLEY AND OATS) SHOULD BE BETTER THAN LAST YEAR'S RECORD CROP, WHILE RESULTS OF CORN HARVEST STILL TOO EARLY TO JUDGE.

2. HUNGARY'S SMALL GRAIN CROP WILL BE HARVESTED AGAIN FROM THE SAME ACREAGE AS LAST YEAR. DESPITE A TEN-DAY DELAY IN HARVEST, COOL AND WET GROWING SEASON AND WIDE-SPREAD LODGING DUE TO RECENT STORMS, THE SMALL GRAIN CROP IS EXPECTED TO BE FOUR TO FIVE PERCENT HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR. MESZAROS RECOGNIZED HARVEST WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT THIS YEAR THAN DURING 1977 DRY SEASON AND, THEREFORE, HARVEST LOSSES IN 1978 COULD BE MUCH LARGER THAN LAST

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 VIENNA 06307 130300Z

YEAR. HOWEVER, THE HEAVIER TEST WEIGHT OF THE KERNEL AND BETTER YIELDING WHEAT VARIETIES PLANTED FOR THIS YEAR SHOULD COMPENSATE MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR THE EXPECTED HARVEST LOSSES. ALSO, THE COUNTRY IS WELL EQUIPPED WITH NECESSARY HARVESTING COMBINES AND DRYERS.

4. CORN WAS PLANTED ON 1,325,000 HECTARES, ABOUT 50,000

HECTARES MORE THAN IN 1977. UNFORTUNATELY, BECAUSE OF WET FIELDS, CORN WENT INTO GROUND ABOUT TEN DAYS LATE. THE COOL AND RAINY GROWING SEASON DID NOT, SO FAR, PERMIT FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLANT. MESZAROS WAS LESS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE CORN CROP PRIMARILY BECAUSE THE TEN-DAY DELAY IN PLANTING MAY EXPOSE THE PLANT TO EARLY FALL FREEZES BEFORE HARVEST. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT A RELATIVELY DRY AND WARM AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER COULD MORE THAN OFFSET THE EFFECT OF THE POOR WEATHER IN THE EARLY GROWING SEASON. HE HIMSELF BELIEVED THE EXPERTS WHO FORECAST WARM AND DRY WEATHER OVER THE REMAINDER OF THE GROWING SEASON.

5. COMMENTS: VISUAL OBSERVATIONS OF FIELDS REVEAL WIDESPREAD LODGINGS. IN SEVERAL AREAS OVER 50 PERCENT OF THE WHEAT CROP WAS FLATTENED. CORN, WHILE SEEMINGLY WELL DEVELOPED, STANDS ABOUT ONE FOOT SHORTER THAN EXPECTED DURING THIS TIME OF THE YEAR.

6. BASED ON MESZAROS' REMARKS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE FIELDS, THE FOLLOWING GRAIN CROP ESTIMATES ARE OFFERED FOR 1978;

- TOTAL GRAIN CROP MAY COME CLOSE TO THE 13 MILLION TON
- TARGET, ALTHOUGH THIS MAY REQUIRE AT LEAST AVERAGE
- WEATHER DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE GROWING SEASON AND
- ABSENCE OF FREEZE DAMAGE TO CORN.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 VIENNA 06307 130300Z

- THE SMALL GRAIN CROP TO BE HARVESTED FROM 1,660,000
- HECTARES COULD COME TO 6.5 MILLION TONS WITH WHEAT
- REACHING A RECORD VOLUME OF 5.5 MILLION TONS.
- UNLESS MARKED WEATHER IMPROVEMENTS OCCUR DURING REMAINDER OF CORN GROWING SEASON, CORN CROP WILL HAVE
- DIFFICULTY IN REACHING THE TARGETED 4.9 TONS YIELD PER
- HECTARE. ASSUMING AN AVERAGE YIELD PER HECTARE OF 4.8
- TONS, CORN CROP TO BE HARVESTED FROM 1,325,000 HECTARES
- SHOULD COME TO 6.4 MILLION TONS FOR A TOTAL GRAIN CROP
- OF 12.9 MILLION TONS. WITH THIS OUTPUT, HUNGARY'S EXPORT
- POTENTIAL FOR THE COMING SEASON COULD RANGE
- BETWEEN 1.0 TO 1.5 MILLION TONS, MAINLY WHEAT. WOLF

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DATA, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978VIENNA06307  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780288-0485  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** VIENNA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780767/aaaacehn.tel  
**Line Count:** 106  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 39ca7e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AGRE  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2028656  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HUNGARIAN HARVEST PROSPECTS 1978  
**TAGS:** EAGR, EPAP, HU  
**To:** AGR  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/39ca7e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014